

## **Emergency Support Function #14 Long-Term Community Recovery and Mitigation**

**Primary District Agency:** Emergency Management Agency

**Support District Agencies:** DC Housing Authority  
Department of Employment Services  
Department of Health  
Department of Housing and Community Development  
Department of Public Works  
Department of Small and Local Business Development  
District Department of Transportation  
Housing Finance Agency  
Office of Contracting and Procurement  
Office of Partnerships and Grants Development

**Primary Federal Agency:** Department of Homeland Security/Emergency  
Preparedness and Response/Federal Emergency  
Management Agency

### ***I. Introduction***

#### **A. Purpose**

ESF #14 provides a framework for Federal Government support to regional, District, and local governments, nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), and the private sector to enable community recovery from long-term consequences of a disaster affecting the District.

#### **B. Scope**

Assistance under this function consists of two components:

1. Recovery activities are those actions that enable disaster victims to begin the process of rebuilding their homes; replacing property; resuming employment; restoring businesses; permanently repairing, rebuilding, or relocating public infrastructure.
2. Mitigation activities are those actions that either prevent the occurrence of an emergency or reduce the community's vulnerability in ways that minimize the adverse impact of a disaster or other emergency.

## ***II. Policies***

- A. Recovery involves actions needed to help individuals and communities return to normal after a disaster. The Federal Joint Field Office (JFO) is the central coordination point among regional, District, and local agencies and voluntary organizations for delivering recovery assistance programs.
- B. Long-term environmental recovery may include cleanup and restoration of public facilities, businesses, and residences; re-establishment of habitats and prevention of subsequent damage to natural resources; protection of cultural or archeological sites; and protection of natural, cultural, and historical resources from intentional damage during other recovery operations.
- C. The Human Services and Infrastructure Support Branches of the JFO Operations Section assess District recovery needs at the outset of an incident and develop relevant timeframes for Federal long-term recovery program delivery.
- D. Hazard mitigation involves reducing or eliminating long-term risk to people and property from hazards and their side effects. The Federal JFO is the central coordination point among regional, District, and local agencies and NGOs for beginning the process that leads to the delivery of Federal mitigation assistance programs.
- E. The Community Recovery and Mitigation Branch of the JFO Operations Section coordinates the delivery of all Federal mitigation programs within the District.
- F. While the Federal Government possesses substantial resources that can be used in time of disaster: regional, District, and local governments, and the private sector primarily define and address risk reduction and long-term community recovery priorities.
- G. District agencies will continue to coordinate Federal immediate recovery assistance to the District under appropriate authorities while additional, long-term assistance is coordinated through ESF #14.
- H. Long-term community recovery and mitigation efforts are forward-looking and market-based, focusing on permanent restoration of infrastructure, housing, and the local economy, with attention to mitigation of future impacts of a similar nature.
- I. The Federal Government uses the post-incident environment as an opportunity to measure the effectiveness of previous community recovery and mitigation efforts.
- J. Assistance through ESF #14 should facilitate the application of loss-reduction, building science expertise to the rebuilding of critical infrastructure.

### ***III. Situation***

#### **A. Disaster Condition**

A public emergency or other significant event may be of such severity and magnitude as to require long-term community recover and mitigation. ESF #14 will provide the overall coordination of federal, District government, and private sector recovery from long-term consequences of a disaster affecting the District.

#### **B. Planning Assumptions**

1. The probable shortage of a critical resource may be known to District government officials in advance of the actual shortage, allowing measures to be undertaken in order to lessen the impact. In some cases, shortages will occur completely without warning.
2. Local businesses and organizations are willing, whenever possible, to assist the community and the District government during a period of resource shortage, particularly following a large-scale disaster. The city's mutual aid agreements with Maryland and Virginia and neighboring counties should also be accessed if these areas have not been impacted by the public emergency.
3. The District government maintains lists of all classes of critical resources, personnel, supplies (mass care, in particular), and equipment that may be needed in the city, as well as the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of government and private agencies that have the resources.
4. Agency and departmental critical resources lists are fundamental to the effective response of the District government to public emergency activations. Procurement transactions, pricing, and vendor relationships need to be established prior to events requiring activation of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Protracted procurement processes may result from insufficient or nonexistent critical resource lists.
5. In any public emergency, donations will be received and managed by ESF #16—Donations and Volunteer Management, and media coverage requesting donations should be a sustained effort.
6. Federal government assistance will be requested to supply unmet needs of response agencies.

## ***IV. Concept of Operations***

### **A. General**

1. The Emergency Management Agency is responsible for all ESF #14 administrative, management, planning, preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery activities to include developing, coordinating and maintaining Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs). All ESF #14 supporting agencies will assist the DCEMA in the planning and execution of the above. All ESF #14 personnel will be trained on the principles of the National Incident Management System (NIMS) and integrate those principles into all ESF #14 planning and response operations.
2. Coordination with all supporting and other appropriate departments/agencies and organizations will be performed to ensure continual operational readiness.

### **B. Organization**

ESF #14 will normally activate with the opening of the Joint Field Office (JFO). ESF #5 will coordinate ESF #14 functions until the JFO opens.

### **C. Notification**

The EMA EOC will notify relevant agencies in accordance with ESF #5 SOPs.

### **D. Response Actions**

1. The EOC will be staffed according to EOC procedures. Necessary actions to protect the public will have been implemented. Initial recovery activities will begin after the disaster assessment is complete.
2. When conditions allow, rapid and thorough assessments must be conducted to:
  - a. Assess the overall damage to homes and to businesses
  - b. Assess the overall damage to critical public facilities and services
  - c. Determine whether those damages are sufficient to warrant supplemental federal disaster assistance.
3. Predictive modeling will be used (e.g., HAZUS-MH multi-hazard loss estimation methodology) to determine vulnerable critical facilities as a basis for identifying recovery activities.

4. Depending on the results of the damage assessment, the Mayor may request a Presidential Disaster Declaration, which would make the District eligible for a variety of federal assistance programs. To assist in coordinating these programs, the Mayor will appoint a District Coordinating Officer (DCO) and a District Hazard Mitigation Officer (DHMO).
5. Upon activation of a JFO, EOC operations may terminate and District operations transferred to the JFO.
6. Following a Presidential Disaster Declaration, the DHMO will develop and execute a mitigation plan. This plan will:
  - a. Reduce socio-economic consequences of the emergency
  - b. Assign staff to identify and document economic impact and losses avoided due to previous mitigation and new priorities for mitigation in affected areas
  - c. Identify appropriate federal and state programs to support implementation of long-term recovery plans
  - d. Include a procedure for the assessment and revision of mitigation plans, as necessary.
7. The DHMO will work with the Public Assistance Program to ensure that all Stafford Act Section 406 mitigation opportunities are identified. Section 406 provides for direct federal assistance for repairs and improvements to eligible damaged public facilities.
8. The DHMO will work with FEMA and appropriate District agencies to develop a disaster specific mitigation Implementation Strategy. The Implementation Strategy will include an overview of the disaster, geographical and mitigation measure priorities, and a Joint Field Office Action Plan.

## ***V. Responsibilities***

### **A. Primary District Agency**

**Emergency Management Agency (EMA)**—EMA will coordinate long-term community recovery and mitigation efforts under ESF #14. To accomplish this, EMA will identify, train, and assign personnel to staff ESF #14 in the Joint Field Office, and notify all ESF #14 supporting agencies upon activation. Specific responsibilities include:

- Develop predictive modeling systems, to include HAZUS-MH multi-hazard loss estimation methodology, to determine vulnerable critical facilities as a basis for identifying recovery activities.
- Coordinate with other District agencies to address key issues for disasters such as temporary and permanent housing, debris removal, decontamination and environmental restoration, restoration of public facilities and infrastructure, and short- and long-term economic recovery.
- In coordination with the federal government, assign staff to identify and document economic impact and losses avoided due to previous mitigation projects and new priorities for mitigation in affected areas.
- Develop and organize damage assessment teams and plans to obtain and analyze damage assessment data.
- Coordinate identification of appropriate federal and state programs to support implementation of long-term recovery plans.
- Coordinate assessment and revision of existing risk analysis and mitigation plans.
- Provide technical assistance in community planning.
- Coordinate recovery and mitigation grant programs.

## **B. Support District Agencies**

1. **DC Housing Authority (DCHA)**—DCHA will coordinate the use of its fleet and crews to assist with the movement of supplies and resources as required to support ESF #14.
2. **Department of Employment Services (DOES)**—DOES will manage issues related to the recruitment of manpower during a public emergency and will serve as the central clearinghouse for mobilization and referral of paid and unpaid workers. DOES will work with ESF Liaison Officers to allocate critical manpower resources on a priority basis. DOES will ensure the continuation of unemployment benefits payments and employer tax collections, disability and workers compensation payments, summer youth employment programs, Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) programs, and Job Services activities.
3. **Department of Health (DOH)**—DOH will identify, obtain, and allocate needed medical resources; recommend policy direction; and direct resources according to needs and potential impact on District-wide services. Additionally, DOH will plan for and provide technical assistance for contaminated debris management and environmental remediation.
4. **Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD)**—DHCD will plan for and provide economic recovery and growth assistance, and provide technical assistance in community planning and economic assessment. Additionally, DHCD will identify, train, and assign personnel

to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF #14

5. **Department of Public Works (DPW)**—DPW will plan for and coordinate debris management.
6. **Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD)**—DSLBD will foster economic growth and development of Local, Small and Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (LSDBEs) through supportive legislation, business development programs, agency and public/private contract compliance. Additionally, OLBD will identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF #14.
7. **District Department of Transportation (DDOT)**—DDOT will provide status and resource information concerning reestablishing any part of the transportation infrastructure that is damaged. Additionally, DDOT will plan for and provide technical assistance in transportation planning and engineering, and coordinate transportation assistance programs.
8. **Housing Finance Agency (HFA)**—HFA will help stimulate and expand home ownership and rental opportunities by issuing tax-exempt Mortgage Revenue Bonds to lower costs of single-family and rental housing. HFA will identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF #14.
9. **Office of Contracting and Procurement (OCP)**—OCP will assist in obtaining critical resources needed for long-term community recovery.
10. **Office of Partnerships and Grants Development (OPGD)**—OPGD will offer services and assistance to increase the capacity of District government agencies and nonprofit organizations to be informed about and successfully compete for federal, District, and foundation grant dollars. Additionally, OPGD will identify, train, and assign personnel to maintain contact with and prepare to execute missions in support of ESF #14.

### C. Primary Federal Agency

**Department of Homeland Security/Emergency Preparedness and Response/Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/EPR/FEMA)**—DHS/EPR/FEMA is the coordinator for ESF #14 under the National Response Plan (NRP) and will provide direct, technical, and other support to the District through the District counterpart ESF, ESF #14. Federal support is tailored based on the type, extent, and duration of the event and long-term recovery period, and on the availability of federal resources.

Upon the Presidential Declaration of an emergency or major disaster under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief Act as Amended, April 1999, the NRP will be implemented by DHS/EPR/FEMA. Initially, federal agencies will operate out of the FEMA Regional Response Coordination Center (RRCC). Later, when the Joint Field Office (JFO) is established near the disaster area, the agency ESF representatives who comprise the Emergency Response Team will be in the JFO. Long-term Community Recovery and Mitigation will be organized as a part of either the JFO.